Budget allocation for the NCR Plan

7258. SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the budget allocation for the National Capital Region plan, yearwise during the last three years; and

(b) the extent to which the NCR plan has benefited the national capital—Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) The specific allocations made by the Central Government for the NCR Planning Board Fund in the last three years are as under:

Rs. in crores

(Later reduced to Rs. 12.25 Cr.)

1991-92	14.00
1992-93	10.00
1993-94	20.00

(b) It is too easy to assess the impact of the Regional Plan-2001 on Delhi. Such an assessment should await the completion of the implementation of the plan. It has to be noted, however, that, in 1991, for the first time in three decades the overall population growth rate of Delhi has registered a marginal decline. The implementation of the Regional Plan-2001 is expected to accelerate this welcome trend.

Property tax/service charges on Central Government buildings

7259. DR. ALLADI P. RAJAKUMAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the present rules in force, the Central Government office buildings are exempted from payment of property tax/service charge to the local bodies wherever they are located;

(b) if so, whether this exemption is coming in the way of concerned local bodies to raise more resources to serve the interests of the people residing in the local areas; and

(c) if so, whether Government will issue clear instructions to the concerned authority of Central Government Offices and Undertakings to pay the property tax service charges demanded by the local bodies and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) Article 285 of the Constitution provides that the properties of the Union that save in so far as the Parliament may, by law, otherwise provide, be exempt from all taxes imposed by a State or by any authority within a State though the properties of the Union are exempt from the imposition of taxes, such properties are liable to pay service charges to the local bodies for services rendered by such local bodies. In this connection, Ministry of Finance, Government of India has issued broad guidelines from time to time laying down the principles for calculating such service charges which ranges from 33.5 per cent to 75 per cent of the property tax realised from private properties. The range of the service charges depend upon nature and quantum of services availed of by the Union property from Local Bodies. However, wherever services rendered by the Local Bodies in respect of Union properties are measured like metered water supply or electricity, etc. or where services like Drainage and scavenging etc. are charged separately, and are paid accordingly

(c) The Government of India has recently reiterated the instruction on the subject to all Central Ministries.